



Bar offers earthy, anti-anxiety kava drinks to help patrons unwind

LIFE&ARTS PAGE 11

Texas toppled by Illinois, Damico becomes leader

SPORTS PAGE 7

>> Breaking news, blogs and more: www.dailytexanonline.com @thedailytexan facebook.com/dailytexan

Thursday, March 22, 2012

TODAY

Calendar

University Flying Club

If you are interested in aviation, becoming a pilot or simply enjoy travel, join the University Flying Club at this upcoming meeting. All are welcome. Meet at PAR 208 at 7 p.m.

Slow Food Texas potluck

Join Slow Food Texas for a potluck dinner. Meet in front of Carothers Dormitory at 5:45 p.m. before heading to UT's Concho Community Garden. Bring a dish to share, your own plate/bowl and utensils.

Screening of 'La doppia ora'

Film de Circolo will be holding a screening of "La doppia ora" ("The Double Hour"), a film about a chambermaid and an ex-cop whose romantic getaway takes a dark turn. The film will be in Italian with English subtitles. This screening is free and will take place in MEZ BO 306 from 8-10p.m.

Today in history

In 1972

The Equal Rights Amendment, intended to enshrine the equality of sexes in the Constitution, was passed by Congress. However, due to anti-feminist backlash, it failed to be ratified by the requisite number of states, leaving the equality of women federally unprotected.

Inside

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What's the deal with fire ants? [page 5](#)

In Sports:

Horns get leadoff batter on key [page 7](#)

In Life&Arts:

Feeling "Hunger Games" lost? Check out our guide [page 12](#)



Quote to note

"Krista has made a name for her own self this year ... She's kind of tearing people up right now and imposing her will."

— **Travis Feldhaus**
Assistant sports information director

Violations axe Madison/Antonio for second time

By Jody Serrano
Daily Texan Staff

The Election Supervisory Board disqualified recently reinstated Student Government candidates Madison Gardner and running mate Antonio Guevara for falsification of financial records, disregarding an election fine and failure to comply with the Election Code.

Austin Carlson, SG law school representative, brought up complaints against the candidates calling for their disqualification after UT reinstated them Monday. The Board heard the charges against Gardner and Guevara Tuesday night and charged Gardner with disqualification Wednesday night. The Board found the pair to be negligent when turning in receipts about their website, failing to acknowledge

their earlier fines on their financial disclosure form and overall violating the Election Code multiple times. The Board fined Gardner and Guevara a 10 percent fine of their campaign spending limit for turning in receipts for *madisonandantonio.com* instead of *madisonantonio.com*, the latter of which they currently use. The Board also counted this as falsification of a financial document. On

Feb. 20, the Board charged the campaign a 10 percent fine of their total campaign budget for failing to list the wood they used for promotional reasons at fair market value, which they did not include in their new financial disclosure Monday. In addition, the Board charged Gardner and Guevara to be in violation of early campaigning rules for taking a group picture in January for their

promotional materials. They also fined Gardner a 5 percent campaign expense fine for failing to expense a free T-shirt he received at an event, writing his and Guevara's name on it and posting it on Twitter. Gardner said Tuesday he and Guevara made honest mistakes by turning in the wrong receipt and failing to note

MADISON continues on [PAGE 2](#)

Brown bounces for NBA



Lawrence Peart | Daily Texan Staff

Redshirt junior guard J'Covan Brown (14) tries to get past a Cincinnati defender in the Longhorns' 65-59 loss to the Bearcats in the first round of the NCAA tournament this past weekend. According to a source close to Brown he will opt to enter the NBA Draft this year.

Junior guard opts to forego senior season, leaving youthful team behind

By Austin Laymance
Daily Texan Staff

J'Covan Brown's spin move caught the attention of NBA scouts and Big 12 defenders alike this year.

The leading scorer in the Big 12, Brown has a series of moves he can go with to score. But his spin is the

most dangerous, especially in the lane, where he uses it to avoid potential shot blockers.

"I'm very crafty when I spin," Brown says. "Crazy things happen." His life is about to get a whole lot crazier.

Brown will enter the NBA Draft in June, according to a source close

to the situation. While Brown has not commented publicly about his decision, and even denied claims he's headed for the NBA via Twitter, the source confirmed he is indeed opting to leave for the NBA.

Last year both Tristan Thompson and Jordan Hamilton denied

that they were headed to the NBA as well, only to be drafted fourth and 26th overall, respectively.

The junior was asked about his future with the Longhorns after Texas was eliminated from the NCAA Tournament Friday.

BROWN continues on [PAGE 8](#)

ENTERPRISE

UT linked to company faced with labor law violations

By Megan Strickland
Daily Texan Staff

Outsourcing labor for dining venues formerly run by Texas Athletics allowed the department to profit more than \$3 million last year. But reports from human rights groups indicate an unseen human labor cost may be tacked onto the price of food and drinks bought at Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium.

In 2011, 11 universities and athletics departments across the nation ended their contracts with Sodexo Services, a French-based company with 125,000 employees in North America serving 9.3 million meals each day to take in \$8 billion in revenue annually, according to the company's website. Sodexo Services is currently responsible for concessions at all UT athletic events, a deal worth approximately \$3.1 million. This deal does not include serving the University of Texas Club at Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium. Under a different, additional contract, UT paid Sodexo \$926,122.62 in the 2011 fiscal year, according to a report of University purchase to the State Comptroller's office. The 11 dropped contracts came a year after The Human Rights Watch, a non-governmental advocacy group, released a 2010 report detailing Sodexo Services' alleged violations of worker's rights to unionize on several occasions in the United States.

OUTSOURCING continues on [PAGE 2](#)



Elisabeth Dillon | Daily Texan Staff

Dedé Simpatia of the Brazilian orchestra SpokFrevo plays his tamborine as members of the Austin Samba School accompany him Wednesday evening in the Austin State Hospital Recreation Center. Sponsored by the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, the workshop was part of the weeklong "Brazilian Frevo Music: From Carnaval to the Concert Hall." To see SpokFrevo in action, check out our video. bit.ly/dt_frevo

Carnaval music takes the stage with frevo

By Andrew Messamore
Daily Texan Staff

Brazilian Spok Frevo Orquestra is opening UT's doors to Latin American culture and rhythmic frevo music in the days leading up to this Saturday's concert.

The group will be performing big band style frevo, a high-intensity jazzy musical style born in northern Brazil that has come to be synonymous with carnaval, a Brazilian celebration taking place during the Catholic time of lent, at the Bass Concert Hall.

The Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies is hosting five events this week, including dance classes and a carnival march on Friday, entitled "Brazilian Frevo Music: From Carnaval to the Concert Hall".

FREVO continues on [PAGE 2](#)

Finalists for VP of Student Affairs office announced

By Liz Farmer
Daily Texan Staff

The search committee for the new vice president for Student Affairs has chosen four finalists out of 77 applicants to visit campus in April.

The position became available when vice president for Student Affairs Juan Gonzalez announced in July that he would no longer serve in an administrative capacity in order to focus on teaching in the College of Education. Each candidate will interact with the University community and to be interviewed further by the search committee.

Architecture professor Larry Speck is chair of the search committee that includes students appointed by President William Powers Jr., faculty members and administrators. Speck said the search committee is looking for a candidate who is student-oriented and will be an innovative leader. "I think there is a sense that this is a good time for change," Speck said. "I don't think we want someone who will just maintain the status quo."

Chris Miller, Vice President for Student Affairs, Marquette University

Miller said he is committed to minimizing barriers to student success, such as his work to increase



Francisco Hernandez



Chris Miller

FINALISTS FOR VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS POSITION



Ajay Nair



Gage Paine

access to mental health screenings to help before depression becomes debilitating.

"It's about being able to focus on areas where we can predict those kinds of things," Miller said. "Approaching it in an open and honest way."

Marquette University is a Catholic, Jesuit college in Milwaukee, Wisc. with about 11,500 enrolled students.

MILLER continues on [PAGE 2](#)

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TOMORROW'S WEATHER

High

81



Low

54

And then they came back and spit on us.

MADISON continues from PAGE 1

the Board's previous fine on their financial statement. He said he hoped the Board takes all the facts into account when making a decision.

Gardner refused to comment on the Board's second disqualification of him and Guevara.

Board chair Eric Nimmer said although Gardner and Guevara fought hard to get back on the ballot, it is irrelevant to Election Code law and the disqualification was by the book. "We never want to disqualify anyone, despite what this election shows," Nimmer said. "We analyze the rules as we see them and the complaints as they are handed in front of us."

Nimmer said he does not know if Gardner and Guevara plan to appeal but would not be surprised if they did. He said he and the Board empathize with Gardner and Guevara and what they have been through these past few weeks.

"The Election Code was not ever

written to be legally perfect, because there are no legal scholars that write it," Nimmer said. "It was written to regulate a student organization [Student Government] that wanted to stop certain behaviors."

Carlson said he supports the Board's decision and thinks it was fair. Carlson said he does not care about their previous disqualification, only the current violations at hand. He said there were many violations of the Election Code and at the hearing the candidates admitted to failure to turn in appropriate Web receipts and disregarding the Board fine on their financial disclosure.

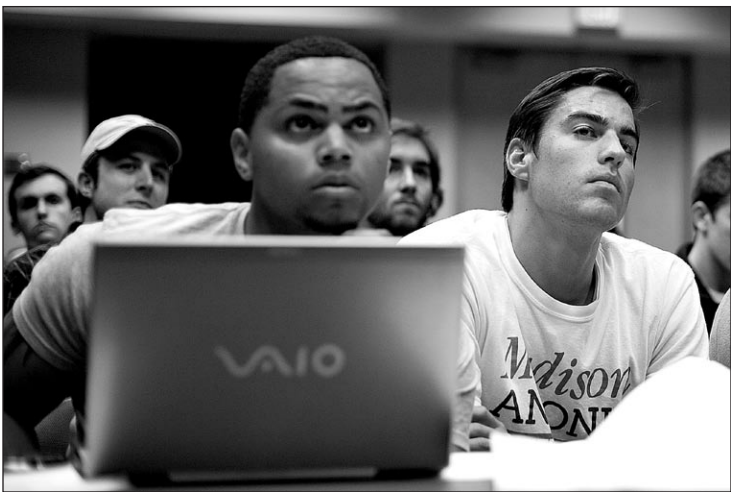
"The Election Code was voted on by the candidate that was disqualified," Carlson said. "Now Student Government will actually follow its Election Code. I think that is the precedent that will follow from here."

He said Gardner should appeal the decision if he believes it to

be unjust, but he agrees with the Board's decision.

Janette Martinez, SG liberal arts representative, said she supports Gardner as an individual student not on behalf of SG. She said she was shocked when she heard about the second disqualification. She said she does not know if the SG Judicial Court will hear an appeal if the candidates file one because the court only hears cases if they believe they was a parliamentary error done by the Election Supervisory Board.

"I don't think anyone knew they were going to be reinstated Monday and we were all very excited," Martinez said. "But there was definitely a likelihood of error happening [in such a quick turnaround] and I hope if there are grounds for appeal they can get an appeal, turn in what they were supposed to turn in. They're human, they made a mistake."



Thomas Allison | Daily Texan Staff

Student Government candidates Antonio Guevara and Madison Gardner face the Election Supervisory Board again after being reinstated Monday. Gardner said his campaign made "an honest mistake" for turning in the wrong receipt for their website and failing to note an earlier fine.

ON THE WEB:
Read the official Election Supervisory Board document regarding Madison's disqualification.
scr.bi/dt_decision



Conservation policies continue despite rainfall

By Samuel Liebl
Daily Texan Staff

Local authorities, environmental groups and the University continue to pursue water conservation policies even after heavy local rainfall in March.

With lakes Travis and Buchanan still less than half full, Central Texas remains in a drought, said Clara Tuma of the Lower Colorado River Authority, which provides wholesale water to the City of Austin. Austin is still under the enhanced stage two water use restrictions set by LCRA, she said.

"Enhanced stage two allows landscape watering no more than once a

week," Tuma said. "Enhanced stage two occurs when the combined storage of lakes Travis and Buchanan falls to 750,000 acre-feet or less."

The recent rainfall raised water levels in those lakes, but it did not fall far enough west in the crucial aquifer recharge zone, said Tyson Broad of the Sierra Club.

"It appears that the rain fell in the low parts of the [Colorado River] basin, not in the major recharge area of porous limestone that helps the lakes stay up," he said.

It is unlikely that Austin will return to the less severe stage one restriction, said Michael Frisch, the University's senior building energy and water con-

servation project manager.

"It's more likely that we will move to stage three," he said. "There probably won't be enough rain to warrant a move in the other direction."

The stage three restriction, as it is currently defined by the LCRA, is not designed to address a long-term water shortage, said Jason Hill, spokesman for Austin Water.

"The stage three restriction code is intended to respond to a catastrophic event," he said. "If stage two is not enough, the groups involved are looking to make changes to the code"

Hill said the diminished water supply results from events in nature, not the mismanagement of resources. He

said Austinites should be proud of the extent to which they have conserved water since the onset of the present-day drought.

"Stage two restrictions have been very effective in decreasing water consumption, and we applaud our customers," he said. "If we haven't done the best job [in implementing water conservation among other Texas cities], we've certainly been very competitive."

Frisch said the University has been doing its part to reduce water use. He said a new irrigation system installed in response to the drought conserves water and reduces the University's water bill.

"The new system measures how much water is evaporating from plants and knows how much rainfall there has been," he said. "It also detects leaks and sends a signal to the main control system. We then deploy an irrigation technician to check out the problem."

The improved watering system saves the University from consuming 50 million gallons of water each year because it prevents leaks and unnecessary irrigation, Frisch said. With the University paying \$11 per 1000 gallons, according to Frisch, conserving that much water saves the University a significant amount of money.

FREVO continues from PAGE 1

The LILAS organization hopes the events will help people understand the music and bring more students to the concert, said LILAS program coordinator Natalie Arsenault.

"Texas Performing Arts devotes a certain amount of their season to Latin American music, and the department of Latin American studies tries to build context around one of those performances," Arsenault said. "We want to provide some background on the culture and get people who aren't familiar with the music excited about the concert"

The LILAS kicked off the events with a panel discussion on frevo Wednesday afternoon, where UT professor Darien Lamen, Spanish and Portuguese professor Lorraine Leu, anthropology professor Christen Smith and producer and journalist Flavio Andrade discussed the history and importance of frevo music.

"Frevo was a result of waves of former slaves moving from plantations to cities after the elimination of slavery," Leu said. "The city was extremely hostile, and fervor formed a way to carve out spaces in the city"

The music was also built on conflict and struggle, Leu said, eventually becoming associated with battles between bands at carnival festivals where groups would compete to play better and louder than each other.

"Wars for representation were fought against an elite trying to control the musicians," Leu said. "Frevo was defined by repression, struggle and normative creative resistance."

On Wednesday evening, musicians from Spok Frevo met with the Austin Samba School at the Austin State Hospital Recreation Center and held

a workshop with the group. About 100 members, dancers and percussionists were present for the evening.

Spok Frevo had met with jazz students earlier in the day to discuss the technical aspects of frevo, but wanted to focus on the rhythmic roots with Austin Samba, said bandleader Inaldo Cavalcante de Albuquerque.

"The soul of the music wasn't systematically taken down until really recently, said de Albuquerque, who spoke Portuguese and was aided by a translator. "We were born and raised playing the music, learning it without

going to school for it"

De Albuquerque said by taking frevo out of its traditional setting in the pulsing streets of carnival, he hoped to bring a different aesthetic to the music.

"The style of frevo we are playing emerged out of musicians who didn't want to work in chaos," de Albuquerque said. "Frevo was born in the street and it has a close relationship with the dance hall, but we want to make it more than just street music and take it to the concert hall"

FINALISTS continues from PAGE 1

gage faculty in order to engage students and said this can be done

through efforts like learning communities, in which dorms are organized by major and have a live-in faculty member who acts as a liaison between the students and the school.

He said one of the main roles of student affairs is to bolster the university's academic mission.

"We do that throughout of the classroom experiences, but they have to have definitive learning outcomes which can be measured," Miller said.

Ajay Nair, Senior Associate Vice Provos For Student Affairs, University of Pennsylvania

Nair said he is a regular attendant at student programs because students are central to the decision-making process.

"In my experience, students have incredible power to affect change at an institution," Nair said. "In many ways it's my job to help shape that and move that along and advocate for students with the administration"

said. "Intellectual, personal development — they're halves of a whole."

About 30,000 students are currently enrolled at UTSA. The campus opened in 1970, which Paine said means student affairs are still in building mode, whereas UT-Austin's student affairs are well established. She said this provides an opportunity if she were to be hired.

"One of the things that can happen is people can say 'We've always done it this way,' and a new person can come in and question," Paine said.

She said it is important that college is a good learning experience that is vibrant and exciting in all aspects, and student affairs is an integral part in initiating and maintaining that type of environment.

"I finally figured out that my job was to make the university work for the students and the people who work there," Paine said.

Francisco Hernandez, Vice Chancellor for Students, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hernandez currently oversees admissions, financial aid and student life for a campus of about 20,000 that is the top research university.

Hernandez said if hired, he would contribute to University goals, specifically maintaining and enhancing the University's national and international reputation. Hernandez said this could be done by partnering with other parts of campus, such as academics.

"We can lead by example in the sense that all of our programs are excellent," Hernandez said.

He said a highlight from his career is when he helped create centers for women, minority students and disabled students at the University of California at Berkeley when he served there from 1980 to 1994.

"I've gained a lot of knowledge by facing many similar challenges that UT may face," Hernandez said. "I'm especially interested in assisting the campus meet the needs of the diverse students body that it has."

OUTSOURCING continues from PAGE 1

In January 2011, the TransAfrica Forum, a Washington-based advocacy group, released a report detailing findings from interviews with Sodexo workers in the Dominican Republic, Guinea, Morocco and the United States. In the report, TransAfrica noted cases where Sodexo workers allegedly earned as little as 33 cents per hour in the Dominican Republic.

After hearing of the treatment of Sodexo workers in the Dominican Republic first-hand from a former employee, students at the University of Washington decided in November of 2010 to try to get the university to sever its 25-year ties with the company, said UW junior Katy Lindgren. Lindgren said she and other members of the university's chapter of the United Students Against Sweatshops eventually had to stage sit-ins where 50 protesters were arrested to get the university's administration to finally end Sodexo's contract in December 2011, after a university committee failed to consider information other than that offered from Sodexo.

"The committee basically just asked Sodexo if the allegations were true," Lindgren said. "Of course Sodexo came back and said it wasn't"

Sodexo has repeatedly denied anti-union sentiment and human rights violations, but in September 2011, they conceded to reform company policy when it settled for \$20,000 with a fired worker at Tulane University. The settlement stemmed from a suit filed by the National Labor Relations Board, which alleged the company had violated labor laws.

The allegations against Sodexo stand stark in comparison to the company's reputation at Texas. Jim Baker, former UT-Austin associate athletic director for events and operations and recently appointed athletics director of UT-Arlington, said contracting with Sodexo transformed profits at Texas athletics events, netting \$3 million in profit for UT athletics in 2011. Baker said prior to contracting with Mar-

riott in 1994, which was later bought by Sodexo in 1998, sales from concessions at University athletic events were barely profitable.

"We were really a mom-and-pop kind of operation that wasn't bringing in very much revenue," Baker said. "The equipment was outdated. If you flipped the wrong switch the breaker would blow. We started looking for ways to make revenue and decided to outsource to people who do this for a living"

A few years later, concessions were a completely different story, Baker said. Sodexo worked with athletics departments to maximize space for vending during the stadium remodel in 1997, he said and revenue began to pour in.

"They brought professionalism," Baker said. "They brought data about point-of-sale. They brought expertise"

In addition to bringing efficiency and profitability to the table, Sodexo also strives to promote community, said Ivan Wagner, manager for Sodexo Services at Texas Athletics. Last year a range of nonprofit organizations, including church groups and Girl Scout troops, staffed the concession stands to earn \$500,000.

"It's not easy work," Wagner said. "But if you have a really motivated group that's willing to work really hard, it is a way to make money you might otherwise not be able to earn"

Wagner said Sodexo also tries to partner with local franchise vendors as well as national chains to add variety and offer business opportunities to local people.

But even if Sodexo is doing good locally, it is overshadowed by the injustices it serves workers internationally, Lindgren said.

"On our campus we hadn't had any rights violations," Lindgren said. "We still wanted to impress upon the administration that it wasn't enough just to be a leader in our local community, but also good global citizens that recognize the importance of human quality of life. What we're hoping is that Sodexo will get the message that it must change its labor practices."

THE DAILY TEXAN

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NEWS BRIEFLY

Official: Mauritania has not agreed to hand over spy chief

OUAKHOTT, Mauritania — A high-ranking government official is denying that Mauritania had agreed to hand over one of Moammar Gadhafi's ex-intelligence chief for trial in Libya.

His comment comes only hours after Libya's spokesman told reporters that Mauritania was planning to extradite Abdullah al-Senoussi back to Libya.

The official, who is close to the negotiations and who requested anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the discussion, told The Associated Press by telephone that "Mauritania had given no assurances whatsoever to Libya regarding handing over al-Senoussi."

He adds that Libya had gone ahead with the declaration in order to "force Mauritania's hand."

Gadhafi's former intelligence chief is accused of attacking civilians during the uprising in Libya last year and of the 1989 bombing of a French airliner.

Honolulu judge puts man in chokehold after causing 'ruckus'

HONOLULU — It got personal for a judge in Honolulu when he put a man in a chokehold for jumping onto his bench and breaking a flagpole bearing the state flag, authorities said.

District Judge Lono Lee knocked down Steven Michael Hauge and restrained him Monday after the man caused a ruckus in Lee's courtroom, Department of Public Safety spokeswoman Toni Schwartz told the Honolulu Star-Advertiser.

Hauge had been going from courtroom to courtroom in the Honolulu District Court building screaming, State Sheriff Shawn Tsuha said. "He was quite upset about something," Tsuha said.

Hauge was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, obstruction of government operations and fourth-degree criminal property damage.

Doctors, staff in Greece protest after government pay delays

ATHENS, Greece — Greek state hospital services faced disruptions Wednesday as staff held work stoppages and protests over government austerity measures and pay delays.

Doctors and staff at public hospitals in the greater Athens area were walking off the job for three hours Wednesday, and planned a demonstration at the health ministry at noon.

Hospital doctors were also holding a go-slow protest, demanding the payment of overtime they say has not been paid for four months.

Health spending was affected by new cuts this year to ensure Greece can continue receiving rescue loans from other eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund. Facing a mountainous debt and gaping budget deficit resulting from years of fiscal laxity and overspending, the country has been relying on billions in bailout loans since May 2010 to prevent it from defaulting on its mountain of debt.

— The Associated Press

French riot police force gunman to surrender

By Johanna Decorse,
Sarah DiLorenzo
The Associated Press

TOULOUSE, France — Riot police set off explosions outside an apartment building early Thursday in an effort to force the surrender of a gunman who boasted of bringing France "to its knees" with an al-Qaida-linked terror spree that killed seven people.

As the standoff dragged into a second day, hundreds of heavily armed police cordoned off the five-story building in Toulouse where the 24-year-old suspect, Mohamed Merah, had been holed up.

An Interior Ministry official said the suspect had gone back on a previous decision to turn himself in — and that police blew up the shutters outside the apartment window to pressure him to surrender.

The Toulouse prosecutor, Michel Valet, told The Associated Press: "I cannot confirm that the assault has started. It's not as simple as that. We are waiting."

Authorities said the shooter, a French citizen of Algerian descent, had been to Afghanistan and Pakistan, where he claimed to have received training from al-Qaida.

They said he told negotiators he killed a rabbi and three young children at a Jewish school on Monday and three French paratroopers last week to avenge the deaths of Palestinian children and to protest the French army's involvement in Afghanistan, as well as a government ban last year on face-covering Islamic veils.



Bob Edme | Associated Press

Police officers walk next to the building in Toulouse, France, Wednesday March 21, 2012 where a suspect in the shooting at the Ozar Hatorah Jewish school had been spotted.

The standoff began when a police attempt at around 3 a.m. to detain Merah erupted into a firefight. Two police were wounded, triggering on-and-off negotiations with the suspect that lasted into the night.

Police cut electricity and gas to the building, then quietly closed in to wait out the suspect.

The suspect repeatedly promised to turn himself in, then halted negotiations. Cedric Delage, region-

al secretary for a police union, said police were prepared to storm the building if he did not surrender.

Sarkozy's office said President Barack Obama called him Wednesday to express condolences to the

families of the victims and praise French police for tracking down the suspect. The statement said France and the United States are "more determined than ever to fight terrorist barbarity together."

Estonia passes law to make human trafficking illegal

By Jari Tanner
The Associated Press

TALLINN, Estonia — Estonia's Parliament passed legislation on Wednesday banning human trafficking and making the Baltic nation the last EU country to enact such laws.

The lawmakers voted 91-0 in favor, with 10 members absent. President Toomas Hendrik Ilves is expected to make the bill law by approving it in the coming weeks.

Estonia had been under pressure from the United States to adopt such legislation and thereby avoid being kept on a watchlist the U.S. State Department keeps of countries it regards as lax in fighting human trafficking. The list has included Belarus and Russia and EU members Cyprus and Malta.

Such criticism embarrassed Estonia, a small country that considers the U.S. a key ally and has long been sensitive to its image overseas.

Andres Anvelt, of Estonia's opposition Social Democratic Par-

ty, called the bill passed Wednesday "a breakthrough" for the nation of 1.3 million people. "This is the first step forward in fighting human trafficking," Anvelt said in Parliament as lawmakers prepared to vote.

The U.S. Embassy in Tallinn also praised Estonia's government.

The new law "is a testament to the commitment both of Estonian lawmakers and of the NGOs who have worked tirelessly to secure justice for the victims of human trafficking and ensure substantial punishment" for perpetrators of the crime, embassy spokeswoman Michelle Schohn said in an email to The Associated Press.

The measure, fast-tracked by Estonia's Justice Ministry, makes human trafficking punishable by a maximum 15-year prison sentence. It also criminalizes sexual exploitation, including forcing minors to work as prostitutes or to appear in pornographic films and erotic performances.

NH House kills gay marriage repeal bill

By Norma Love
The Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. — New Hampshire lawmakers on Wednesday rejected a bill that would have made their state legislature the first one to repeal a gay marriage law, handing gay-rights supporters a key victory in the Northeast, where same-sex marriage is prevalent.

The state House voted 211-116 to kill the measure, ending a push by its new Republican majority to rescind New Hampshire's two-year-old gay marriage law. Nevertheless, both sides are pledging to continue fighting into the fall elections.

Repeal opponents hoped to solidify what they argue is public support for gay marriage, while supporters hoped to reverse the law in a region of the country where gay-rights groups have strength.

"Today is a banner day for the freedom to marry," said Craig Stowell, co-chairman of Standing up For New Hampshire Families. Stowell said the House, where Republicans hold the advantage, was supposed to give conservatives their best shot at repeal. "They blew it. This was supposed to be the most favorable legislative climate for repeal and they couldn't even get a majority."

The Republican-backed bill

called for repealing gay marriage in March 2013 and replacing it with a civil unions law that had been in place in 2008 and 2009. Gay marriages occurring before the repeal took effect would have remained valid, but future gay unions would have been civil unions. The bill also would have allowed voters to weigh in on the issue through a nonbinding November ballot question.

Last month, a federal appeals court declared California's same-sex marriage ban to be unconstitutional. The ruling could mean the bitterly contested, voter-approved law will be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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OVERVIEW

Lessons from a divorce

Earlier this month, the UT System launched a Web page for Texans to track the split between UT-Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, both located in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

The page offers a healthy dose of transparency in what has been a very messy and convoluted divorce between the four-year UT campus and its two-year neighbor, which highlights the enormous evolutionary questions that face higher education.

The partnership between the two was established in 1991. Both institutions have open admissions policies, so students could seamlessly transition from Texas Southmost College to UT-Brownsville after completing their requirements. Many facilities and employees were also shared.

But a rift between the institutions' two governing bodies, the UT System Board of Regents and the Texas Southmost College Board of Trustees, occurred as the 20-year partnership was up for renewal. The bickering between the entities highlighted two fundamental issues: focus and finances. In the end, the UT System regents voted unanimously in November 2010 to dissolve the partnership, and the TSC trustees followed suit a few months later.

From a logistical point of view, the UT System's Web page will help individuals across the state track the governance nightmare of splitting two institutions and address questions ranging from employment and tenure to accreditation and graduation.

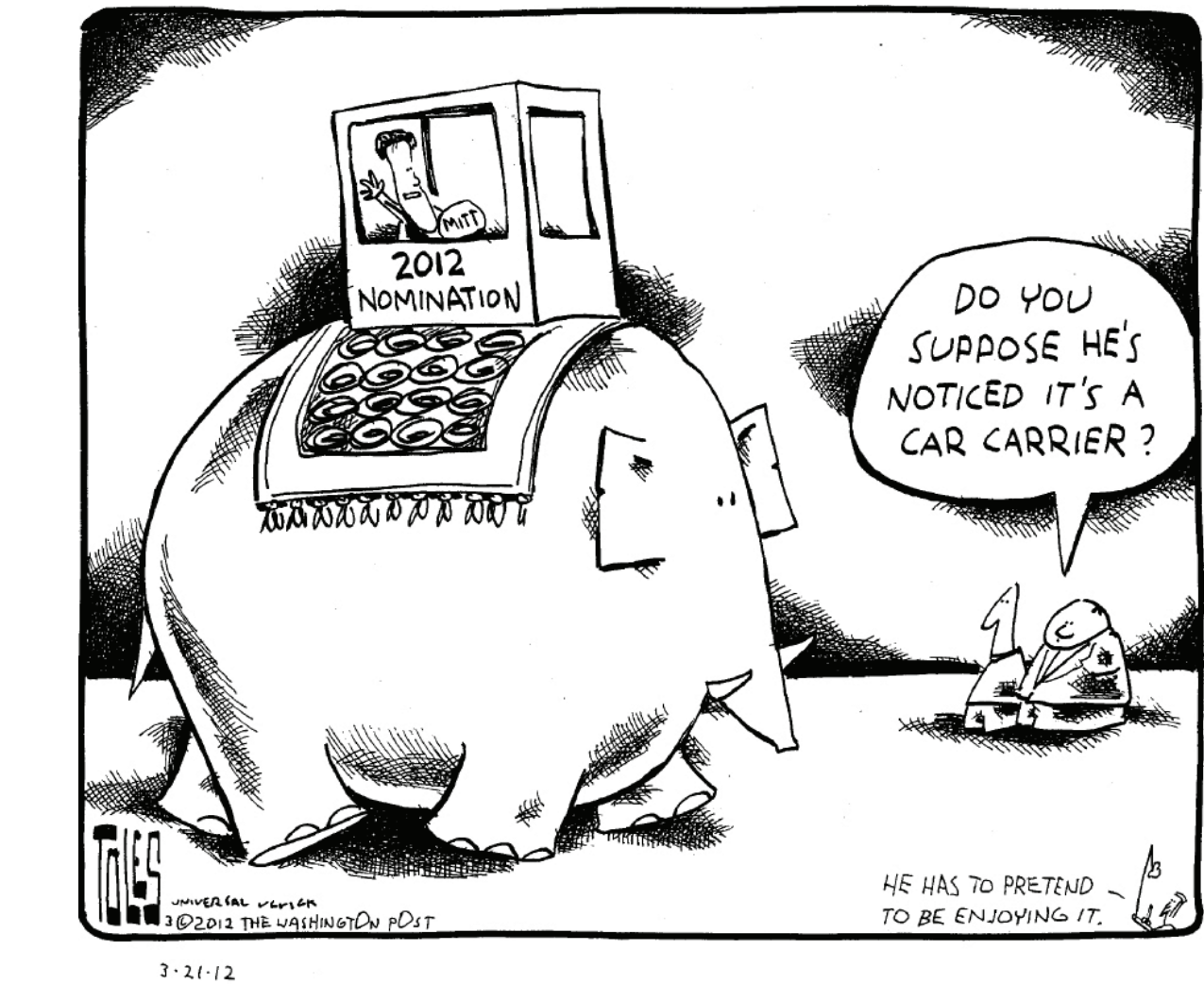
However, the Web page's greater value is that it highlights higher education's underlying existential challenge. Many blamed the UT System for disregarding the strong community ties the institutions had in order to increase the reputation of UT-Brownsville. The split and its aftermath accentuates the dilemma between access and education, and its current manifestation forces society to choose between a more educated workforce and a better educated workforce.

When higher education was reserved primarily for the brightest and the richest, colleges and universities relied heavily on enticing the most talented students—knowing perfectly well that what goes in will come out the same way.

But the national push for access to higher education has suddenly put the focus on learning gains and academic empowerment that students obtain at an institution. It's one thing to be judged on an ability to recruit a talented student. It's a completely different thing to be judged on making a talented student.

The dissolution of the UT-Brownsville and Texas Southmost College partnership signals the failure in balancing excellence and access — at least in this form.

As the UT System moves forward in publicly navigating a difficult breakup, they have the opportunity to redefine how these two equally important missions can intermingle.



Explore the rooting of recruiting



By Zoya Waliany
Daily Texan Columnist

Last week, Greg Smith, former executive director at Goldman Sachs, resigned from his job of 12 years with a scathing op-ed in The New York Times. Smith said he resigned because he believes the company has shifted its interests from its clients to itself over the last few years and he could no longer support such an organization. He mentioned how he “could no longer look students in the eye and tell them what a great place [Goldman Sachs] was to work” during recruiting sessions. Smith’s letter has incited public debate about Goldman Sachs and the corporate world, and it calls attention to the company’s methods of recruiting college students.

In his column, Smith deems the environment at Goldman Sachs “toxic and destructive,” asserts that the company disrespects its clients and only cares about making money. He recalls a time when the company had a culture of integrity and teamwork, when he first joined the firm after graduating from Stanford University. Smith places the blame on Chief Executive Officer Lloyd Blankfein and President Gary Cohn for turning the company into a money-hungry corporation that refers to its clients as “muppets.”

Smith discusses Goldman Sachs’ re-

cruiting at colleges, which he describes as a “grueling interview process” in which thousands of students may apply for jobs in a given year and fewer than 100 are hired. UT is one of many colleges where students undergo the challenging and exciting recruitment process, with many students from the McCombs School of Business and other schools vying for these prized spots at companies like Smith’s. Goldman Sachs is now defending itself against Smith’s derisive portrayal, arguing his is a minority opinion.

Yet, many students around the country are taking on views similar to Smith’s. Particularly because of the Occupy Wall Street movement, students at universities including Dartmouth, Harvard and Yale have published op-eds urging their peers to pursue professions outside of corporate America. This attitude is exemplified in projects like *StopTheBrainDrain.org*, a website whose mission statement is “Don’t let Wall Street buy our best and brightest.”

This “brain drain” refers to the concern that many students from elite universities end up working for investment banks despite entering school with vastly different career goals. Chris Wiggins, an associate professor at Columbia University charged, “zero percent of people show up at the Ivy League saying they want to be an I-banker, but 25 and 30 percent leave thinking that it’s their calling. The banks have re-

ally perfected, over the last three decades, these large recruitment machines.” Many students who take part in the anti-Wall Street movement feel their classmates are wasting their potential at jobs like these.

While Goldman Sachs may prioritize earning revenue over other concerns, the company does engage in charitable enterprises, such as its \$100-million initiative to teach business and management skills to 10,000 women in the developing world in 2008. This smart venture, which is one of Goldman Sachs’ biggest charitable donations, reminds those of us observing the corporate world from the outside that it might not be as evil as we believe.

Yet Smith’s contentious confession raises many concerns about investment banks and other similar organizations that students planning to enter the workforce should take into consideration. As the ins and outs of the corporate world are becoming more transparent thanks to whistleblowers such as Smith, students should research and evaluate all aspects of this career path before their final selection. Contrary to Wiggins’ claims, some students may indeed view investment banking as their calling. Keeping claims like Smith’s in mind, these students should be wary of adept recruiters’ sales pitch techniques and independently determine the bank, company or profession that will keep them happy in the long run.

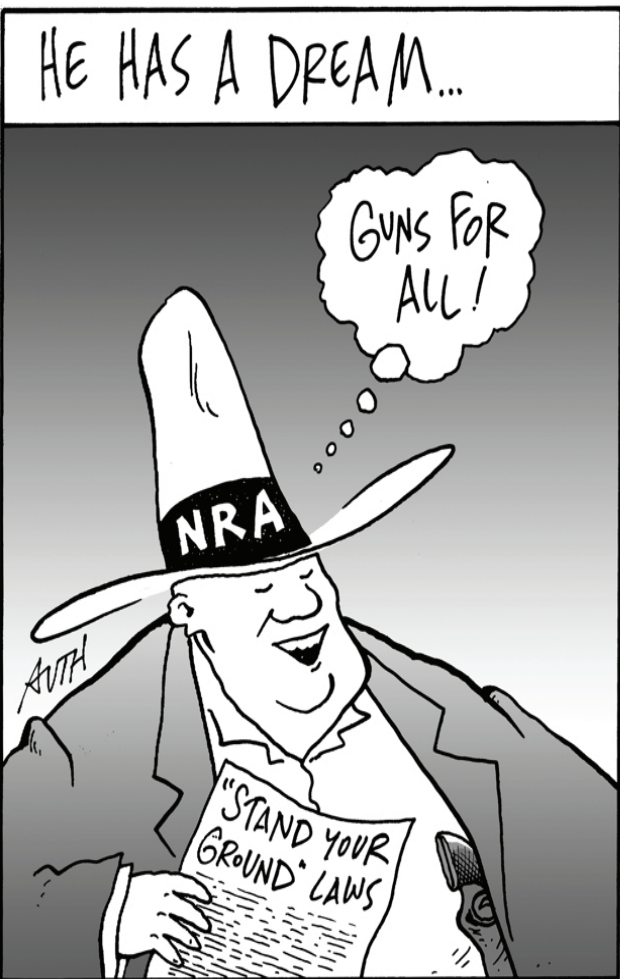
Waliany is a Plan II and government senior.

LEGALESE

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RECYCLE

Please recycle this copy of The Daily Texan. Place the paper in one of the recycling bins on campus or back in the burnt-orange newsstand where you found it.



Keep Austin green



By Hannah Lapin
Daily Texan Columnist

Paper or plastic? The answer to this common dilemma should be neither. Roughly 380 billion plastic bags are used in the United States each year, according to Envirosearch. One hundred billion of these bags are plastic shopping bags. And only 1 to 2 percent of these bags get recycled. Additionally, Americans use more than 10 billion paper bags every year. That is approximately 14 million trees worth of paper bags.

The city of Austin alone uses around 263 million plastic bags yearly, unnecessarily filling up our landfills. It is about time our community took the initiative to help the environment and put a stop to the citywide use of paper and plastic bags.

The Austin City Council recently voted in favor of a ban on paper and plastic disposable bags at retailers throughout the city. Beginning in March of 2013, stores will not be permitted to give customers any bags unless they are made of cloth, made of durable materials, made of thicker paper or have handles. The ban exempts bags used for newspapers, restaurants and charitable groups.

Despite its good intention, the new bag ban has received many mixed reactions. Some Austinites and UT students are angered, believing that using bags should be a customer

choice. Further, many people argue that they recycle their used bags, so they should not lose the opportunity to use them.

Although plastic bags are a convenient way to bring home shopping items, research suggests that most of them are only used once and then thrown away. Think about how many bags are wasted on the Drag everyday, between the Co-op, CVS, Campus Candy, Tyler’s and other stores. If UT students embraced the bag ban and took the initiative to bring their own bags to stores or put shopping items in their backpacks, the difference for the environment would be profound.

Fortunately, UT Co-op President George Mitchell does not believe that the bag ban will affect students shopping at the Co-op at all. Mitchell said the Co-op will spend an additional \$7,000 every year on bags that meet the qualifications of the ban. Students will be able to go about their shopping as usual but take home their purchases in a more environmentally friendly way.

The time for change is now. Instead of thinking about the bag ban as a shopping nuisance, people need to look at the bigger picture. If the city of Austin is able to eliminate even 100 million plastic bags each year, the benefits would clearly outweigh the inconvenience. Keep Austin green.

Lapin is a journalism sophomore.

SUBMIT A GUEST COLUMN

The editorial board welcomes guest column submissions. Columns must be between 600 and 800 words. Send columns to editor@dailytexanonline.com. The Daily Texan reserves the right to edit all columns for clarity, brevity and liability.

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James Moore, associate provost in the Office of Diversity at the Ohio State University spoke at the Herman Sweatt Symposium Wednesday night. He discussed the possible solutions to the steady number of under performing African American males in today's society.



Raveena Bhalara
Daily Texan Staff

African-American social issues discussed

By Alexandra Klima
Daily Texan Staff

Ever since his childhood, James Moore said he has dealt with the stigma of inferiority associated with being an African-American male. As a result, his lifelong passion has become attempting to rise above this inequality, a burning passion which permeates his entire being, he said.

The Division of Diversity and Community Engagement hosted The 2012 Heman Sweatt Symposium on Civil Rights at John Hargis Hall to continue Sweatt's legacy of education and excellence in African-American males. Sweatt was the first African-American male admitted to the UT School of Law, following the ruling of the landmark Supreme Court case of 1950, Sweatt v. Painter.

James Moore, associate provost in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Ohio State University, spoke at the 26th annual symposium yesterday, and discussed numerous solutions to the social issues currently facing African-American males. He said people are unwilling to identify underlying issues as problems be-

cause that requires taking action and fixing it.

"We know there's a problem facing African-American males," he said. "Turn on the news and it's apparent there's issues facing the African-American male population."

He said adults are giving up on African-American children entirely too early. Data analysis was done on the demographics of third graders in order to see how many prisons should be built in certain areas of the country depending on the amount of African-Americans present, he said.

A big misconception inherent in our society remains that nothing is wrong within the African-American male community, Leonard Moore, associate vice president for academic diversity initiatives in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, said.

"Many people have already accepted the fact that black males have a harder time succeeding in higher education," Moore said. "By encouraging and fostering initiatives for African-American males, it's amazing what young men can do when they have someone behind them who actually

supports and stands up for them."

He said in order to execute change at UT, the most influential African-American male groups across campus must be targeted, which he said were student athletes, black Greeks and successful students and leaders.

Moore said these men are not products of their environment, but products of expectations placed upon them often by people who love them. For example, once a young man skilled in football is repeatedly told he must attend college, play football and buy his family a house, he begins to associate his identity with this notion of what he does and not who he truly is, he said. Laughter filled the room when Moore said party fliers for a certain African-American fraternity repeatedly contained images of scantily clad women.

"Popularity is a double-edged sword, where one must learn how to use it in order to elevate the people, not bring them down," he said. "Party attendance won't be affected if those images are not used on fliers."

Moore said if the alpha males are not dealt with, the root of the problem is ignored and nothing will change.

When you deal with the most influential males, everyone else will eventually fall in line, he said.

Petroleum engineering sophomore Samantha Fuller said she attended the symposium for extra credit in her sociology class, Gender, Race and Class in America.

"I hoped to gain a deeper understanding of how males in America are affected by racism and how they differ according to their race," she said. "We are learning about the same types of things in our sociology class."

In order to improve the retention rates of African-American males in educational institutions, black males must be engaged in learning through things that interest them in real life and things they can relate to, Leonard Moore said.

Raising his voice, Moore said, "How can UT-Austin have one of the highest ranked education colleges in the country and yet the public schools in the same district simultaneously fall apart?"

"If Frederick Douglass can teach himself how to read, we can for sure teach our young people how to read," he said.

UT's official boots raise money for scholarships

By Rachel Thompson
Daily Texan Staff

Displayed atop a University Co-op shelf is a pair of burnt orange and white cowboy boots complete with an official University seal and a signature Longhorn emblem.

UT's official cowboy boots, ticketed at \$349.99 and made of ostrich-leather, were designed by former members of Student Government and have been sold in the Co-op since 2007 to raise money for student scholarships, student body President Natalie Butler said. Butler said the Student Government board reads through scholarship applications in April of each year and chooses students based on both need and merit. The exact amount given to each student varies from year to year, she said.

"We wanted to have a pair of University of Texas student boots," she said. "But the intention from the beginning was [funding] student scholarships." Butler received hers as a Christmas gift and said the process of designing the boots and working with the manufacturers to create them provided a unique way to award scholarships and sport one-of-a-kind boots.

"There are lots of other companies that make boots, but there aren't many with a unique custom design that are totally student-focused," she said. "I'm pretty sure we're unique in that sense."

Hulan Swain, director of licensing and

imports at the Co-op, said while several different UT-branded products were discussed in order to fund scholarships, the boots were the most obvious choice.

"I think the success of the product was in the quality and also because they were the first licensed UT boots," she said. "It took a long time to finalize the manufacturing and licensing process, but it has been a really good program."

At last count, the boots had raised close to \$200,000 for student scholarships, she said. About 500 pairs have been sold each year, with slight fluctuations. Sales were higher in 2009 as the University rested on the brink of a national football championship, with roughly even sales between males and females.

The price has not changed since the boots were first put on the market, Swain said, and although costs of manufacturing are rising, the Co-op intends to keep the boots on the shelves.

"As long as there's demand and as long as student government wants to continue with the program, we will do it," she said.

Economics freshman Bing Arend Vanderkam said he owns a pair of custom UT boots and felt the quality of the boots was well worth the price tag.

"A pair of cowboy boots is just part of the attire here," he said. "They're really high quality and they're something I'll own for a long time and not have to replace."



Raveena Bhalara | Daily Texan Staff
Brian Jewell, head of marketing at the University Co-op, tries on UT's official burnt orange and white cowboy boots.

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AN AMERICAN CAMPUS COMMUNITY



Jonah Edelman, CEO of the Stand for Children non-profit organization, spoke at the School of Social Work Wednesday morning. Stand for Children works to improve the quality of education at all levels.



Nathan Goldsmith
Daily Texan Staff

Speaker addresses children’s education

By Rachel Thompson
Daily Texan Staff

Young children spend their days in early education like sponges, soaking up the knowledge and skills that will help them succeed later in life, said lecturer Jonah Edelman.

Edelman, the CEO and founder of Stand for Children, an organization that supports children’s educational interests, spoke at the School of Social Work on Wednesday about closing the achievement gap between students of different races and pushing all students toward success with proper support.

Those early yearnings to learn and absorb are often marred and overshadowed by adult discussions and political challenges that surround education today, he said.

“It’s we adults who ruin it for them — it’s not their failing,” he said. “We need to get away from

adult debates and focus on what is best for students.”

Those adult debates include funding, unions and management of school boards, he said. While all of those issues have relevance in discussions of education, the emphasis should be placed on providing children with excellent educators and challenging academic programs, he said.

Edelman said the Austin Independent School District has made impressive strides that often go unnoticed by the press or a larger public audience.

“There’s some really good things happening here in this community,” he said. “There is good leadership, good governance and wise use of funds. Austin students outscore their counterparts in several areas.”

Despite these signs of success, the district is also facing challenges, Edelman said, citing

the achievement gap between African-American, Latino and white children.

Edelman said much of the responsibility of closing that gap rests on a community’s individuals and their willingness to help.

“The question for you to ask yourselves is, what can you do individually to address these needs?” he said. “Can you tutor? Can you mentor a kid? Can you join a nonprofit? You have to challenge yourself.”

Ramona Trevino, chief academic officer of AISD, said measuring academic performance is only part of what is needed to make sure students succeed in school.

“There’s this delicate balance between academic excellence and the human side of schooling,” she said. “The students are not widgets coming off the assembly line. Each one is unique

in their character.”

Trevino said ensuring the success of English language learners is also achieved through encouraging the importance of speaking multiple languages.

“It’s very important for Spanish speakers in this district to know that Spanish is important,” she said. “We want them to be bi-literate, to be bi-cultural.”

Gregory Vincent, vice president for the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at UT, said the community should view public education as a collective benefit and attempt to break down the barriers that undermine a child’s ability to succeed.

“One of the most important things we can do is to restore this idea that education is a public good,” he said. “When an individual walks across the stage with a degree, the whole society benefits.”

Biologists hatch plan to eradicate fire ant problem on campus

By Samuel Liebl
Daily Texan Staff

UT biologists are developing a method to reduce the prevalence of invasive fire ants by introducing their natural enemies — parasitic flies that turn them into zombie-like ants.

According to University’s Fire Ant Project website, specific species of small insects, known as phorid flies, lay an egg in the thoraxes of invasive fire ants. A larva hatches out of the egg and moves into the ant’s head. The ant wanders away from the nest, where it dies and its head falls off. The phorid fly matures in the cavity that formerly contained the ant’s jaw muscles and brain.

Lawrence Gilbert, director of the Brackenridge Field Laboratory and leader of the research, said the flies proved to be ecologically safe. A map on UT’s Fire Ant Project website shows the extent of the fly’s range, which now encompasses all of Central Texas since the introduction of the first non-native ant-decapitating species in 2002.

Both insects are native to South America, but the ants were brought to the United States accidentally and without their parasitic predators, Gilbert said.

“Another researcher several years ago found that phorid flies can prevent ants from dominating,” he said. “The flies will not eradicate invasive fire ants [in Texas] but they can help prevent them from being a major pest. That’s an important issue in Texas where fire ants cost the economy of Texas \$1 billion per year.”

There is a native species of fire ant, but it contends with native predators and so it does not run amuck, said research associate Rob Plowes.

“Native Texas fire ants are seldom considered pests because they are in the presence of their natural enemies including eight species of phorid flies,” he said.

Gilbert said his research into using phorid flies to control invasive fire ants began after he took over the Brackenridge Field Laboratory in 1980. At that time, he was pleased with the diverse fauna, including more than 50 species of native ants, he said.

“A major selling point to researchers that were coming to work [at the field lab] was ‘Hey, look at these fantastic ants,’” Gilbert said.

A year later, invasive fire ants moved in, established a few colonies and took over, he said.

“They dramatically reduced the populations of other native arthropods and affected ground nesting vertebrates, like quail,” Gilbert said. “Obviously we can’t use broad spectrum pesticides because we want to preserve the ecological integrity.”

Gilbert said he began investigating whether non-native phorid flies could provide a solution without damaging the native ecology.

“We spent the first decade researching whether the flies would choose between their natural hosts and native fire ants,” he said. “We put them in situations of extreme choice. Even if [the phorid flies] are desperate, there is no evidence that they will switch to preying on the native fire ants.”



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WOMEN'S TENNIS



Shila Farahani | Daily Texan Staff

Senior Krista Damico sends a forehand volley back over the net during the Longhorns' 4-3 loss to Illinois on Wednesday afternoon.

Horns fall short against Fighting Illini

By Matt Warden
Daily Texan Staff

In a back-and-forth match that came down to the final points, the Longhorns were edged by a 4-3 margin.

The team dropped two out of three doubles matches, and although their resiliency reared its head yet again in a thrilling set of singles matches, Illinois proved to be too much for Texas.

Noel Scott and Lina Padegimaite started the afternoon with an 8-4 loss. The match was

closer than the score indicates, but the duo of Illinois came through late in the match.

The Longhorns bounced back with 9-8 win from Krista Damico and Cierra Gaytan-Leach. The pair has won three straight matches in doubles play.

Texas closed out doubles competition with an 8-6 loss giving the Fighting Illini a 1-0 lead entering singles competition.

Freshman Padegimaite led the charge of the team by winning her singles match in straight sets. The victory puts her win

total at nine for the season.

Despite a win from Padegimaite, the women dropped the next two matches and fell into a 3-1 hole. Elizabeth Begley emerged victorious in a back-and-forth three set affair to give the Longhorns their second point of the match.

Illinois clinched the winning point in the fifth match, but that didn't stop the Longhorn's newly emerging star from making more waves.

Senior Krista Damico pushed her win streak to 11 matches in

that most exciting match of the afternoon. Damico dropped the second set of the match after handily winning the first. The third and deciding set saw the ladies separated by only two points, with Damico emerging as the victor over No. 92 ranked Allison Falkin. Although the match was lost, Damico's winning streak was extended and her win spoke volumes for the spirit of this team.

The women will get a well deserved week off before continuing Big 12 Conference play.

BASEBALL

Leadoff hitters heating up, getting on base more often

By Christian Corona
Daily Texan Staff

After his team's sixth straight win Tuesday evening, head coach Augie Garrido joked that Bill James, the renowned baseball statistician, should write an article about how often a team scores when its leadoff batter reaches base.

"[The percentage] is really high," Garrido asserted. "And it drops dramatically when they don't get on. What you can do offensively drops dramatically, too."

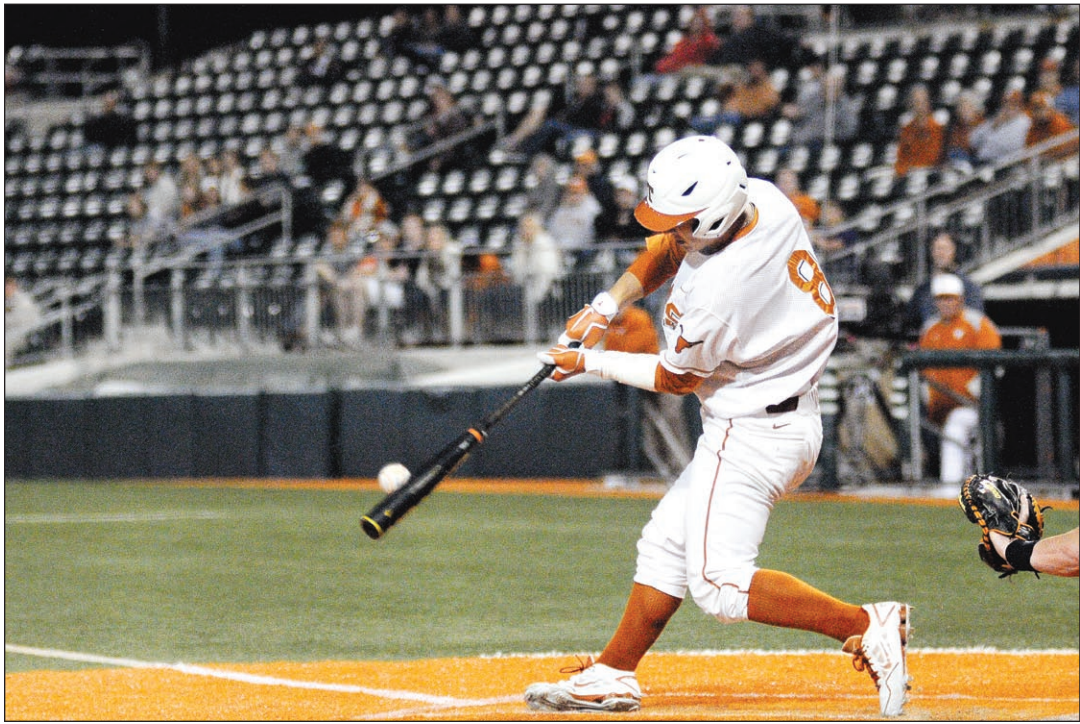
The Longhorns' offense is predicated on having the first hitter of the inning get on base any way they can. When that happens, Garrido almost always has the next batter lay down a sacrifice bunt so the leadoff batter advances to second base, hoping that an ensuing base hit will drive him in. The "small ball" philosophy has worked well so far during Garrido's tenure at Texas to the tune of seven College World Series appearances and two national titles.

This year, the value of the leadoff batter reaching base has also been evident.

In the Longhorns' 11 victories this season, their leadoff batter reached base nearly half of the time, at a 48.9 percent rate to be exact. On the other hand, the leadoff hitter has reached base only 29.2 percent of the time in Texas' eight losses this year. Meanwhile, the Longhorns have scored 65 runs in the 66 innings where they've put the first batter of the inning on base. But in 98 innings where their leadoff hitter has not reached base, they have pushed only 21 runs across the plate.

In its last six contests — all wins — Texas leadoff hitters are batting .425 and slugging .674 while boasting a .577 on-base percentage. In their previous 11 games, only four of which resulted in Longhorns victories, their leadoff batters hit just .222, slugged .303, and posted a .321 on-base percentage.

"You're seeing the leadoff hitter get on in a variety of ways and you're seeing the people behind them be patient, advancing the runners in more ways," Garrido said. "They just look like professionals playing the game so that just brings more confidence to the table and that's the best friend you



Rebeca Rodriguez | Daily Texan Staff

Freshman infielder Brooks Marlow connects on a pitch in a recent game at UFCU Disch-Falk Field. Marlow and other Longhorn leadoff hitters have been swinging the bat well during UT's current six game win streak.

can have in this game — confidence."

During the current six-game winning streak, the Longhorns are scoring in two-thirds of the innings that their leadoff batter reaches base and more than 40 percent of the time when they don't. But during a five-game losing streak earlier this season, their longest since 2001, Texas got the leadoff bat-

ter on base only 11 times in 45 innings, scoring in six of them. In the other 34 frames, the Longhorns scored only three runs.

"They were pressing to get a hit," Garrido said. "They weren't bothering to know where the ball was and the more you do that, the more tension you create in your body. There's a lot of rhythm to hitting.

There's rhythm, timing, and vision — they're all connected. When you don't have your rhythm, you lose your timing. And when you lose your timing, you lose your vision. So now you're really in trouble."

In Tuesday's 9-1 triumph over Stephen F. Austin, Texas saw its leadoff batter reach base in four

LEADOFF continues on PAGE 8

Damico steps into leadership role as senior

By Matt Warden
Daily Texan Staff

Same serve, same approach, same confidence. After almost four years as a Longhorn, she is just starting to peak.

Krista Damico is a senior captain for the No. 9 ranked women's tennis team. She has come into her own and currently sits at No. 75 in the nation as everyone takes notice.

"Krista has made a name for her own self this year," said Travis Feldhaus, assistant sports information director. "She's kind of tearing people up right now and imposing her will."

Coming into the spotlight is a big deal for any athlete as it should be. In spite of all the attention, Damico still speaks as a piece in the paramount team picture.

"It's hard having a young team, but they've all come together and have played really well," Damico said. "It's been a really collective effort by everyone and it's nice to see that everyone's hard work is paying off."

As a whole, the Longhorns are on a roll and all roads are leading to a great year. At this point in time however, the success of Damico looms over this.

"I think my team needed me this year to be not only a senior but a captain as well and that means not only leading on the court but off as well," Damico said. "It's [her success] really off of the team and off of the school, and it's my last year so I have to go out with a bang."

Amidst the team's 9-5 record this year, Damico has compiled an eye-popping 11 straight victories which earned her Big 12 Player of the

SENIOR continues on PAGE 8

SIDELINE

NBA

CLIPPERS

91

THUNDER

114

TIMBERWOLVES

100

SPURS

116

LAKERS

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MAVERICKS

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WHAT TO WATCH: SWEET 16

EAST REGION

(4) Wisconsin vs (1) Syracuse

W S

Date: Tonight
Time: 6:15 p.m.
On air: CBS

(6) Cincinnati vs (2) Ohio State

C OHIO STATE

Date: Tonight
Time: 8:45 p.m.
On air: CBS

WEST REGION

(4) Louisville vs (1) Michigan State

L S

Date: Tonight
Time: 9:17 p.m.
On air: TBS

(7) Florida vs (3) Marquette

F M

Date: Tonight
Time: 6:47 p.m.
On air: TBS

TWEET OF THE DAY

Dominic Espinosa

@DomEspinosa

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No. 7 seed Florida will face No. 3 Marquette in one of eight Sweet 16 matchups this week.



Matt York
Associated Press

NCAA NOTEBOOK

Sweet 16 offers tough pairings

By Antonio Morales
Daily Texan Staff

Cinderella teams have come and gone, a couple of big name programs are now looking forward to next season after being eliminated, and the second week of the NCAA tournament is yet to get underway.

Down to a field of 16 teams, the second phase of March Madness offers several intriguing matchups.

No.1 Seeds face challenging paths to the Final Four

Player of the year Anthony Davis and top-seeded Kentucky find themselves in a rematch against the only team that defeated them in the reg-

ular season. Indiana shot 60 percent from 3-point land en route to a buzzer-beating win over the Wildcats in December. The Hoosiers might need to shoot lights-out again to keep up with Kentucky's superior talent.

If the Wildcats survive past Indiana they would likely play the Baylor Bears in the Elite Eight. Led by forwards Perry Jones III and Quincy Acy, the Bears have the length and athleticism to compete with the Wildcats.

North Carolina started the tournament as a popular pick to win it all, but it might have to complete that task without starting point-guard

SWEET 16 continues on PAGE 8

MEN’S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Swimmers and divers ready to compete for another title

By **Elijah Perez**
Daily Texan Staff

In a year that has seen many underwhelming performances from several of Texas’ top squads, Longhorn fans may be tempted to judge 2011 as a “down” year. From the recent and unceremonious early exit of a talented, yet underachieving men’s basketball team from the NCAA tournament; to the pedestrian finish of a well-coached yet, at times, poorly led football team; to a rocky start from a baseball team touted as a preseason favorite, the season in review for the Longhorns from the perspective of Texas fans may be tinted gray by a foreboding cloud of disappointment.

Emerging from the haze of a lackluster year for Texas athletics comes men’s swimming and diving, ready to cap off a fantastic season with a top flight performance at the NCAA championships and deliver a much needed boost for Longhorn morale.

Coming off of a regular season that saw the Longhorns rack up victories in dual matches against the likes of No. 22 SMU, No. 18 Texas A&M and No. 8 Auburn, this Texas squad has certainly earned their second ranked status in the country.

Head coach Eddie Reese points to an increased fitness level and strong team effort in preparation for a valiant finish at the end of the season as the reasons for the Longhorns success in the pool this year.

“Being the training period before the Olympic trials, I’ve worked them harder and had more demanding workouts. They’ve done them better than any team I’ve ever had,” he said.

Though many Texas swimmers have been vying for spots on the U.S. national squad for this year’s Olympics in London, which coach Reese will also lead, the team has kept their sights on delivering a

superb season and a national title for Texas, what would be the 11th under coach Reese’s reign.

“We’ve been focused on the quest of having a very successful NCAA showing. That seems to be where everyone’s mind is,” Reese said.

Reese has been quick to point out the leadership provided by a stellar senior class as crucial to the team’s chemistry and collective effort.

“You hear a lot of talk about team chemistry. Coaches can’t really influence it a whole lot. The guys on the team and their leadership do ... your upperclassmen are always the leaders in that respect,” he said.

Indeed, Texas has benefited from strong performances from the likes of seniors Jimmy Feigen, a 17-time All-American who will compete in six more events this year, Jackson Wilcox, a four-time Big 12 champion in the 500 freestyle, and divers Drew Livingston and Matt Cooper, who claimed titles at the Big 12 Championships and qualified for the NCAA Championships in dominating style at the Zone D Diving qualifying meet two weeks ago.

Still, the team’s mentality and desire to outperform expectations are what coach Reese has most admired about this year’s squad.

“I don’t have to push them a whole lot. I give them tough workouts and they do them better than I would ask ... I think that’s just the way the team is,” he said.

This striking instinct coupled with a dynamic crop of experienced veterans have created a truly effective bunch of athletes this year for Texas.

Where some of the more recognizable teams on campus have faltered, the swimmers and divers are putting themselves in fine position to make this season for Texas athletics one for fans to be proud of and rally behind.



Freshman John Curtiss delivers a pitch in a recent game. The Longhorns are 11-8, 3-0 in the Big 12 this season.

SWEET 16 continues from PAGE 7

Kendall Marshall. Even without Marshall, the Tar Heels depth and talent should help them advance past the No.13 Ohio Bobcats.

At the other end of the weekend the Tar Heels might be matched-up against the Big 12 Champions Kansas Jayhawks. They would have their hands full trying to stop National Player of the Year candidate Thomas Robinson. North Carolina’s guard depth would also be tested in this game by Jayhawks’ point guard Tyshawn Taylor, who does

a solid job of attacking the basket and finding open teammates.

Big Ten Champions Michigan State faces Rick Pitino’s Louisville Cardinals in what should be a defensive struggle to decide who moves on. Draymond Green could prove to be too much for the Cardinals and the Spartans could be on their way to yet another Elite Eight. Two legendary coaches facing off this time of year is nothing new, but it almost always makes for an exciting game.

Without Defensive Player of the Year Fab Melo, the Syracuse relied on its depth to make it through the first week of the tournament. To win the East region, the Orange might have to defeat a couple of tough-mind-

ed Big Ten teams in Wisconsin and Ohio State. Wisconsin plays a contrasting style to Syracuse and will try to slow the pace down and force the Orange into a half-court battle.

Lower-seeded teams look to continue unexpected runs

The 13th-seeded Ohio Bobcats had an impressive opening week, knocking out Michigan and the Big East’s South Florida Bulls. It would take a historic upset over the No. 1 Tar Heels for the Bobcats to continue their run. The MAC Champions are out-matched in just about every position by the wounded Tar Heels. If the Bobcats are to make history they need a heroic performance from guard D.J. Cooper.

North Carolina State just made the

LEADOFF continues from PAGE 7

times in the first six innings, after which the Longhorns held a commanding 8-0 lead. Freshman second baseman Brooks Marlow was the catalyst of the prolific offensive production, leading off a 3-run second inning with a single and scoring in the third after starting the frame with a triple. Then, Marlow laid down sacrifice bunts in his next two plate appearances. The first drove in a run and the second moved runners over to second and third base as both would eventually cross the plate.

“What we try to do is get the first guy on every time,” Marlow said. “It doesn’t matter how you get on. It can be a bunt, hit, walk or an error. You can’t be picky. On base is on base.”

As often as the longhorns are getting on base, their winning streak could go well beyond six games.

field thanks to their performance in the ACC Conference tournament. Their late season resurgence continued into the NCAA Tournament and they are coming off a victory over Big East powerhouse Georgetown. C.J. Leslie and Richard Howell provide the No. 11 Wolfpack the athleticism to hang with Kansas. Xavier underachieved in the regular season and failed to win their conference tournament, but they still earned a No. 10 seed in the NCAA tournament. All-American caliber player Tu Holloway heads the Musketeer attack into a matchup against Baylor. Chris Mack’s team will have to find answers to overcome Baylor’s size in hopes of reaching the Elite Eight.

SENIOR continues from PAGE 7

Week last week. Despite her lone loss in the season opener, Damico has not lost her confidence which has had a lot to do with the streak.

“I’m still pretty heartbroken about that first match,” she said. “But I’ve learned that you need to just have faith in your game and stick to what you do best and success will come.”

When people think of tennis the first thought is head-to-head matches, but doubles matches are an integral factor as well. Damico participates in both areas, but grudgingly confirms the mano a mano credence of the game.

“I really do love both [singles and doubles competition], but my doubles record hasn’t been where I want it to be,” Damico said. “So for me probably based on where my singles record is this year, I’d say I’m enjoying that more.”

Talent is something that not everyone has, and it must be earned at every point in its development. However, certain talents run in

the family.

“Her brother Kellen Damico played here and he was an All-American,” Feldhaus said. “Their grandfather Ed Gilbert was an All-American swimmer here also, so she definitely has the family ties.”

With the gene pool to succeed, Damico has unquestionably upheld the legacy of her family while walking in her own shoes. A talent like this attracted a lot of attention, but her heart has always been orange.

“Burnt orange was instilled in my brain since I was a kid,” Damico said. “Kellen and I are ridiculously close, so this was really the only place I wanted to go to.”

Damico is a true Longhorn whose success this year has put her on a whole new level. But when she comes down from this plateau, a life unknown to fans awaits her in the world.

“I’m majoring in physical culture in sports and I graduate in May,” Damico said. “I’m not really sure what I want to do yet so I’m going to take the summer off and go to Europe, and just travel around before trying to get a job here in Austin.”

Through wins, losses and new heights, Krista Damico has remained the same. A winner on and off the court, a bright future is lit for the ever shining Longhorn.

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BROWN continues from PAGE 1

“I’ll make the decision, talk to coach [Rick Barnes], talk to my parents and see what the best thing is for me,” Brown said.

He averaged 20.1 points per game this season to lead UT. Brown has a daughter, Jordyn, who will turn two in July.

Brown also told reporters, “At the end of the day I have a family to take care of.”

According to *DraftExpress.com*, Brown is the No. 9 junior prospect (No. 69 overall) and is projected to be a second round pick in June.

The NBA is the next logical step for the 6-foot-1 shooting guard. Brown, 22, scored over 30 points in four games this season and scored in double-figures 32 times in 34 games. There is not much left for him to prove at the college level.

Brown totaled 683 points this season and was named first-team All-Big 12. He combined for 693 during his first two years at Texas.

“People don’t really understand

how hard it is to score 20 points night in and night out,” said Barnes. “Every team that we played this year, he was the focus of their game plan. He goes out every game with a big bull’s eye on his back. He’s a terrific offensive player and he’s been pretty darn consistent all year.”

Brown’s game extends past his dazzling spin moves, though. He’s a pure shooter.

The Port Arthur native made 86.3 percent of his free throws (157 of 182) and shot 37 percent (80 of 217) from beyond the arc this year. Combine those numbers with 41.7 percent shooting from the field (223 of 535) and it’s easy to see why Brown causes headaches for opponents.

“You can’t guard him one-on-one,” said Cincinnati leading scorer Sean Kilpatrick, who saw Brown’s spin move in the NCAA Tournament this year. “You’ve got to have help from the rest of your teammates. He’s a great scorer.”

Brown was the Longhorns’ only consistent option on the offensive end and carried an inexperienced team this season. He was named U.S. Basketball Writers Association District VII Player of the Year, a re-

gion that encompasses Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Texas needed more from Brown than just scoring this year, and he delivered. Brown was second on the team with 130 assists and 41 steals. He was also the best rebounding guard at 3.4 boards per game.

Big 12 defenders will be relieved next season with Brown out of the picture. As Missouri guard Kim English put it, “he’s deadly.”

Brown sizzles as junior

Points pg: 20.1
Rebounds pg: 3.4
Assists pg: 3.8
FG %: 41.7
3-Pt %: 36.9
FT %: 86.3
30 point games: 4
20 point games: 19

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Recent advancements delve into sea of discovery



Director journeys into the abyss

Oscar-winning filmmaker James Cameron, who has directed some of the biggest movies of the past 25 years, including “Titanic” and “Avatar,” will be traveling deep under water into the Mariana Trench — something that hasn’t been attempted in more than 50 years. Using much more advanced technology than was available during the previous mission, Cameron hopes to uncover scientifically useful information using 3-D high definition cameras and huge 8-foot tall arrays of LED lights. The mission will be as dangerous as anything attempted by the heroes of his movies and will involve putting himself in a tiny one-seater submersible in near freezing water with pressures so strong that they’ll compress the craft by 2.5 inches.

Neutrinos obey speed limit

Further tests at the Gran Sasso National Laboratory have shown that, despite recent reports, neutrinos do not travel faster than the speed of light and obey the laws of physics as we currently understand them. A report from the OPERA group at the same lab back in September had reported that the electrically neutral particles appeared to go faster than the universal speed limit and scientists have been hard at work trying to explain what went wrong. While this experiment, performed by the ICARUS group, doesn’t necessarily indicate where the previous one was in error, it does suggest that the conclusions may not be correct. Other groups are hard at work to replicate the results.

Russia, South Korea work together on mammoth project

Russian and South Korean sci-

entists have agreed to join forces in order to bring the woolly mammoth back to life. The species, not seen on this planet for about 10,000 years, would be resurrected through advanced cloning technologies, which rely on finding well-preserved mammoth cells. These cells could be turned into an embryo, which would be implanted into a modern elephant (the mammoths’ closest living relative), who would then give birth to the creature. Other animals have been cloned using similar techniques, but this would be the first time that an extinct species could be brought back from the dead using modern science.

Fruit flies drown sorrows in alcohol

A recent experiment at the University of California, San Francisco, found that fruit flies that have recently had sexual encounters are less likely to eat food coated in alcohol than those who haven’t. The scientists think that this may be a result of how the brain handles pleasurable senses. At a certain point, the brain determines that the fly is happy enough and doesn’t need the alcohol to cheer up. Whether or not this kind of behavior applies to humans is a question for a future study.

Man prepares to free fall from space

In an effort to push the limits of what is humanly possible, daredevil Felix Baumgartner plans to break the world record for highest free fall in history by more than three miles. Through the aid of a special suit — the air is much too thin and too cold for a human being to survive at that height — Baumgartner successfully and safely plunged 13 miles to Earth in a test run this past week. He is ready, if all goes according to plan, to break the sound barrier on his plunge from 23 miles up all the way back down to near the Earth’s surface before pulling the ripcord on his death-defying, record-breaking stunt.



Illustration by Anna Grainer | Daily Texan Staff

US host to North Korean concert series

By Greg Bluestein
The Associated Press

ATLANTA — An Atlanta-based nonprofit is planning to bring North Korea’s national orchestra to the U.S. for a tour that would start in Atlanta, according to the group’s president.

The North Korean National Symphony Orchestra is planning a concert in Atlanta this spring followed by a tour of several other cities, said Robert Springs, the president of Global Resource Services, a humanitarian group that works in North Korea.

He said he hopes the visit will take place in the spring but that the details are still being worked out and the visit is still awaiting government approval. Springs’ group has sent three musical groups to North Korea over the last 14 years, including Christian rock group Casting Crowns.

“The hope is that we can better understand the people of North Korea and that they can better understand us,” he said. “And that could lead to more normalized relations.”

The deal comes amid encouraging signs that ties between the U.S. and North Korea could be warming.

Both nations announced an agreement last month that calls for Pyongyang to freeze its nuclear activities and allow U.N. nuclear inspections in exchange for food aid. But Washington said the North’s recently unveiled plans to launch a satellite on a rocket could jeopardize the deal.

The U.S. tour by North Korean musicians takes place four years after the New York Philharmonic performed in Pyongyang, North Korea’s capital, in January 2008 — a historic cultural exchange between musicians from two nations that remain enemy states.

Korea was split at the end of World War II into the communist North and the U.S.-backed South. The two sides fought a three-year war that ended in a truce in 1953 but has left the Korean Peninsula divided by a heavily fortified border. The U.S. still has more than 28,000 troops stationed in South Korea.

The visit comes as North Korea has sent a flurry of cultural exchanges. The South Korean conductor of the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra landed in Pyongyang in February to rehearse with North Korea’s Unhasu Orchestra. The Unhasu Orchestra performed a landmark concert with a French orchestra last week in Paris.

“The hope is that we can better understand the people of North Korea and they can better understand us.”

— Robert Springs, humanitarian president

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By DAVID OUELLET

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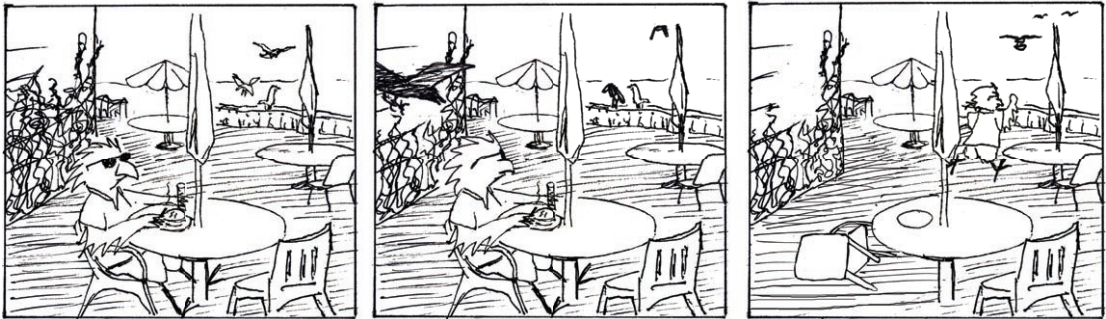
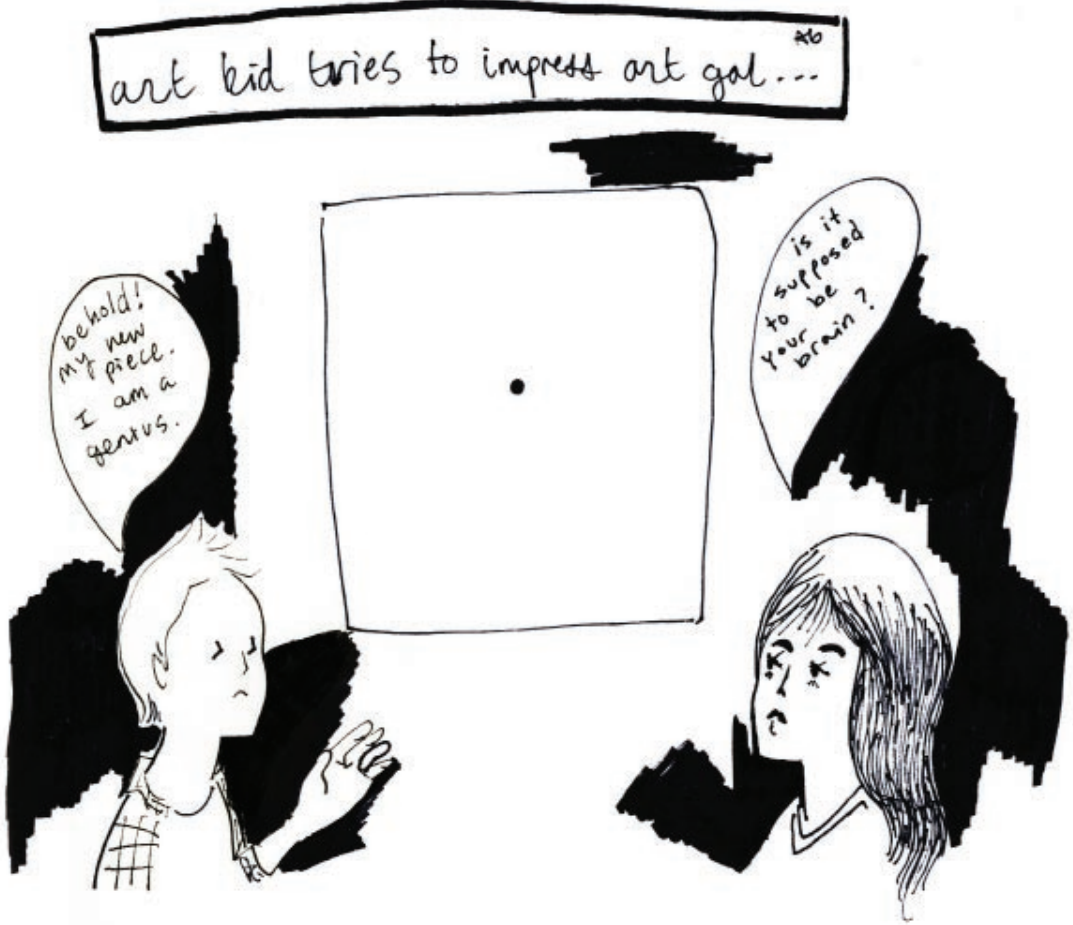
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The New York Times

Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0216

Across

1 Goof

7 Boo-boo

12 Player of TV's Caine

13 Circus performance or concert

16 Lined, as a furnace hearth

17 Representative's work

18 Nice one

19 L.A.P.D. part

20 Bro's greeting

21 With 29-/30-Across, wiggle room ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme

23 "You ___!"

24 Stir

25 Monty Python title character

26 Chocolate dessert

28 It may have bullets

29 & 30 See 21-Across

33 Yuma-to-Tombstone dir.

34 Excuse

35 It may come from a well

36 Stumble, in a way

38 Kind of net

40 Ones stuck in the hospital, for short?

41 Approval in Rome

42 Medicine

44 Blue-roofed dining spots

45 "I heard ___!"

48 Shut-___

49 "Hold on"

50 Flushes

52 Quad bike, e.g.

53 2011 Rose Bowl winner, for short

54 One caught by border patrol

55 Market town that's a suburb of London

57 Folded like a fan

58 Mint

59 Gaffe

60 Screwup

Down

1 Film planner

2 Slugged

3 First subway line in N.Y.C.

4 Grab a parking spot

5 Hit with, as a pickup line

6 Jet engine housings

7 Imperfect

8 Implements for "writing" on computer screens

9 Part of the face whose name is derived from the Latin for "grape"

10 1960s title sitcom character

11 Tubby

14 Gunk

15 Misprint

16 Flub

22 Old gang weapon

23 Prickly seedcase

26 Vocabulaire part

27 Get to

29 Rant

31 School whose football stadium is nicknamed the Horseshoe

32 Obeyer, as of laws

34 "You ___ me"

35 Brown, e.g.

37 Muff

39 Like New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel

40 Wallet items, in brief

41 Lord Byron's "___ Walks in Beauty"

43 Tony-winning playwright Eve

44 Seen

45 Pratfall

46 The pits

47 It's not scripted

49 New Mexico county

51 Susan of Broadway's "Beauty and the Beast"

52 Eyebrow shape

56 Miss at a hoedown

Puzzle by Jim Page

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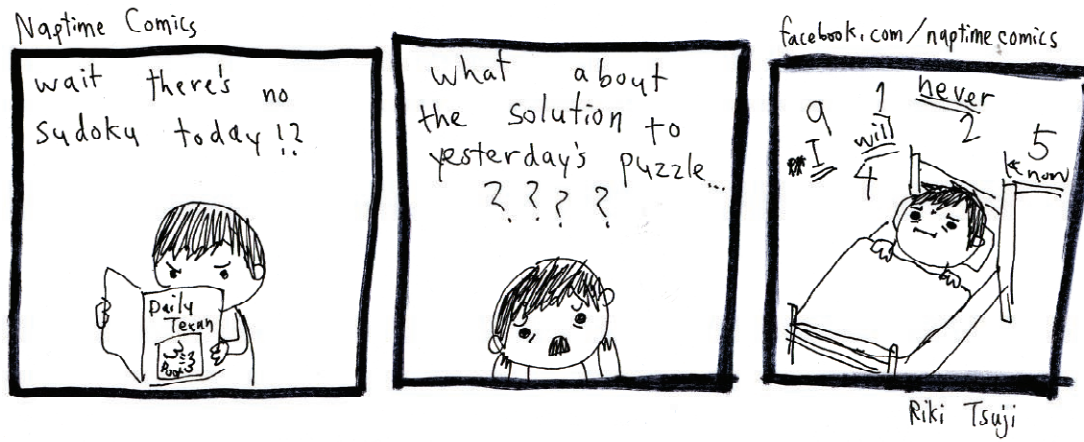
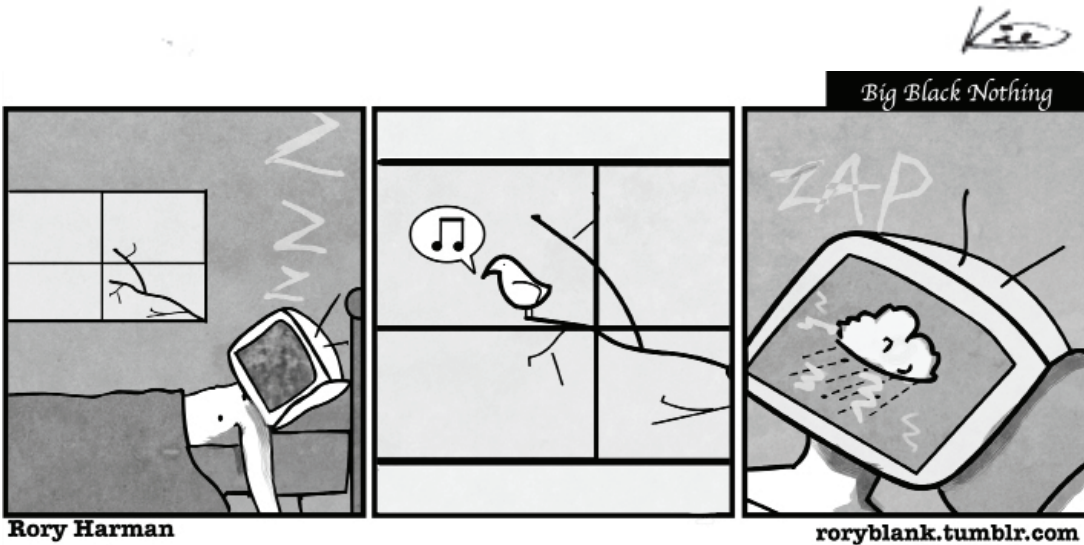
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The Hunger Games

Directed by:
Gary Ross

Genre: Action

For fans of:
"Battle Royale,"
"The Running
Man"

Compelling adaptation lacks character nuance

By Alex Williams
Daily Texan Staff

With any book-to-film adaptation, there's bound to be lots of disappointed grumbling about how the film doesn't live up to the book, and "The Hunger Games," written by Suzanne Collins, certainly lives up in that regard. The film often feels like a CliffNotes version of its source material, and glosses over much of its character nuance. However, as with any adaptation, it's important to remove the film from its novelistic origin and decide how the film stands on its own merits. Thankfully, "The Hunger Games" is a solid, entertaining beginning to what's sure to be an insanely profitable franchise.

"The Hunger Games" sets up its concept concisely, via an opening scroll of text that tells of a steely Capitol that punishes its dozen districts for a quashed rebellion by forcing them to offer up adolescent "tributes" to compete in the hunger games, an extended fight to the death that's televised across the nation. Our heroine, Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence), comes from District 12, a dilapidated state of coal miners, and when her younger sister is chosen for the games, Katniss volunteers to take her place.

It's easy to argue that "The Hunger Games" is at its strongest in this early section, and it's clear that director Gary Ross is most comfortable with this tender, innately human setting. Ross' previous directing credits include "Seabiscuit" and "Pleasantville," so it makes sense that many of the film's most resonant moments come about in the character-driven first act. Ross gives District 12 its own visual stamp, filming it naturalistically and giving the characters a quiet, beaten-down dignity. His staging of the "reaping" (an assembly where citizens are chosen for the games) is elegantly horrifying, especially as the citizens are herded into the center of town like cattle being sent to slaughter.

Once Katniss and fellow games tribute Peeta (Josh Hutcherson) move to the Capitol and then on to the main event, Ross gives each section of the film its own visual dynamic, filming the Capitol as a freak show filled with people dressed like fools and ignorant to the citizens suffering in the districts

around them, while the games are portrayed in equal parts action film and tragic drama. The games themselves are the film's most dynamic portion, and Ross does well tiptoeing around the material's inherent brutality while still making it dramatic and interesting.

Ross makes the smart decision to let the audience peek into the control center of the hunger games, run by Crane (Wes Bentley), and also dips into its wide supporting cast for reactions to what's going on in the arena. Strong character actors like Donald Sutherland, Stanley Tucci, Woody Harrelson and Elizabeth Banks all pop up here. While one hopes they'll play bigger parts in the inevitable sequels, each and every one of them makes an impression here.

Lawrence proves to be a great choice for Katniss, and she seems to be relishing playing a well-rounded female protagonist, something that many films of this ilk (looking at you, "Twilight") forget to include. Katniss is fiery and charismatic, and Lawrence plays all those notes wonderfully, but her best moment is just before she's sent into the games, as Katniss shakes with fear and deals with her possible impending death. It's a subtle, smartly observed moment — one where Lawrence proves she was the right pick for the role.

The love triangle that develops between Katniss, her hometown sweetheart Gale (Liam Hemsworth) and Peeta is the least interesting part of "The Hunger Games" franchise by a long measure, and the film suffers when it dips its toes into that well of melodrama, both in terms of story and performance. Hutcherson gets a few chances to play charming, and while Hemsworth seems to be well-cast as Gale, he completely fails to build a character here.

"The Hunger Games" is effective as a setup for a franchise, but it also works on its own terms, as a story about government oppression, as the cinematic event it's being hyped as and as a major coming-out party for Lawrence. As an adaptation, it's a fairly typical cut-and-paste (author Suzanne Collins co-wrote the screenplay), but compelling enough to leave established fans and newcomers hungry for more.



Murray Close | Lionsgate

Jennifer Lawrence portrays Katniss Everdeen, left, and Liam Hemsworth portrays Gale Hawthorne in a scene from "The Hunger Games."

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Kava bar serves up relaxation in a cup

By Elijah Watson
Daily Texan Staff

After a day filled with multiple java stops and shots, where do you go to unwind and rid yourself of liquid anxiety? A new bar in Austin has got the answer, and it's called kava.

SquareRut Kava Bar, a recently opened cafe on the south side of Austin, offers patrons an earthy drink for unwinding after a stressful day. Made from the root of the kava plant, the liquid's active ingredient, kavalactone, is what gives consumers that feeling of relaxation and pleasure. The root is pounded into powder and soaked in water and cultivated for two days.

"The way [kavalactones] react to the GABA receptors in your brain are very similar to alcohol, but you can never be intoxicated," said co-owner Tracy Moreno. "It has the reverse effect of alcohol, as far as the dependency goes. The more alcohol you drink, the more you need each time to get drunk. With kava, you won't need as much as you continue to drink it over time."

Derived from the Pacific Ocean cultures of Polynesia, kava has been used as a traditional practice in Fiji, Hawaii and Melanesia.

"It's the most respected herb in those south-sea cultures," said Mark Blumenthal, the founder and executive director of the Austin-based nonprofit, American Botanical Council. "The herb is given in the form of a tea to visiting dignitaries: Queen Elizabeth, President Johnson and Mrs. Johnson and The Pope were all offered kava in a ceremonial manner, as part of their welcome. That is how important it is to their culture."

The power of kava does not stop at greeting ceremonies: It also serves as an anxiety reliever.

"It's a skeletal muscle-relaxing herb, and that's why there are a number of clinical trials, showing how the extract of kava is effective in states of anxiety," Blumenthal said. Back in February 2000 the Journal of Clin-



Nathan Goldsmith | Daily Texan Staff

SquareRut Kava Bar recently began selling kava tea. The Polynesian-derived beverage produces feelings of numbness, relaxation and mild euphoria, with any depressant effects.

ical Psychopharmacology published a study on kava's effectiveness for treating anxiety, in comparison to a placebo. Kava extract was found to be superior to a placebo as a treatment for anxiety.

Unlike most pharmaceutical drugs that treat anxiety, kava does not have a central nervous system depressant effect. Simply put, you stay on the ball mentally, while the rest of your body is in a state of relaxation.

"That is why it has become a popular recreational item among young people, and why kava bars have been popping up in California and Hawaii for years," Blumenthal said.

Moreno, along with husband Scott, are proud to be Texas' first ever kava bar.

"We really think Austin is a great place for [kava]," Moreno said. "Surprisingly enough, we did not have to get any specific licenses to sell kava. It was pretty easy overall."

Although kava does provide a good time for its user, there are some precautions. Aside from its earthy and pungent taste, kava can potentially slow reflexes when consumed in large quantities. "It's basically relax-

ing and/or inhibiting those impulses to your skeletal muscles," Blumenthal said. It's advised to not drive or operate heavy machinery if you have consumed too much kava.

Some kava preparations have also been linked to liver problems, but throughout the years, the link has dissipated. In March 2002 the FDA advised kava users of the connection, after several reports of liver-related injuries occurred in Switzerland and Germany. "In most cases it has been used quite safely and successfully," Blumenthal said. "But there has been some research that suggests that some poor-quality kava were associated with liver-type disease." A 2010 Annals of Hepatology review by Goethe University professor Rolf Teschke supported the probable contribution of "poor kava raw material" as a cause for liver failure in many documented cases, but also took note that kava root preparation could be a probable cause as well.

The Morenos make their kava fresh, but they have many different flavors, including regular, coconut milk, honey and cinnamon and chocolate. For people on the

go, the bar also offers instant kava and kava strips.

Some people prefer the regular flavor because of its potency. "It's strong, but you get used to the taste," said freshman biology major Camilla Martin. "They also give you a few pineapple slices that act as a chaser, which helps out a lot."

Kava is the medium between java-junkies and beer-buzzers, and like most drinks consumed for a certain effect, it needs to be consumed responsibly. "It should be done responsibly, respectfully and moderately; like all things," Blumenthal said.

Squarerut Kava Bar

HOURS | Monday-Sunday

12 p.m. - 12 a.m.

LOCATION | 6000 Congress

Suite 106

WEB | <http://www.facebook.com/SquareRut>

PRICE | \$-\$

TRIP continues from PAGE 12

Finn" usually play bayou-friendly music on Royal Street, while a magician known as "The Lunatic" can be found across from Jackson Square.

After heading to the hotel and changing out of your sweaty clothes, it is time to start thinking about dinner. If you are sick of Cajun food, head up Bourbon Street to Esplanade Avenue to Port Of Call. This restaurant sells enormous half-pound burgers. And to make matters worse, they come with a side of a loaded baked potato. You'll want to split the burger with a friend for sure.

Wash it all down with an Abita, a local beer, or if you are more adventurous, try the Neptune's Monsoon, a mix of fruit juice and liquor.

Then make your way over to Frenchman Street. This area offers an array of hip bars that usually feature live music. It serves as a great alternative to the craziness of Bourbon Street. Stay put at a bar that has a band you enjoy, or do a bit of bar hopping to get a sense of what is going on at each bar. Either way, you'll enjoy a wonderful night of music that you will actually remember the next day.

Sunday

The best breakfast spot on Sunday morning is Croissant D'Or Patisserie located on Ursulines Avenue. The croissants here are truly comparable to those found in France. Made fresh daily, their pastries will have you wishing you could eat these every day. Try the almond croissant with a hot coffee.

Before hitting the road back to Austin, make a quick detour to Magazine Street. This area is reminiscent of South Congress Avenue with all of its vintage stores. And be sure to hit up Sucre. This pastry shop has a variety of flavors of French macarons that will come in handy as a great road trip snack.

So before the work starts to pile up, take a break in the Big Easy. It's not all beads and Bourbon Street.

New Orleans Cuisine

Mr. B's Bistro

- 201 Royal Street
- 504 523 2078
- Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Dinner 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Carousel Bar

- 214 Royal St
- 504 523 3341
- 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.

Cafe Du Monde

- 800 Decatur St
- 1 800 772 2927
- 24 hours

Central Grocery Co.

- 923 Decatur St
- 504 523 1620
- Tues-Sat 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Port of Call

- 828 Esplanade Ave
- 504 523 0120
- Sun-Thurs 11 a.m. - 12 a.m.
- Fri-Sat 1 a.m. - 1 a.m.

Croissant D'Or

- 617 Ursulines Ave
- 504 524 4663
- Mon, Wed-Sun 6 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Sucre

- 3025 Magazine St
- 504 520 8311
- Sun-Thurs 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- Fri-Sat 8 a.m. - 12 a.m.

Croissant D'Or

- 617 Ursulines Ave
- 504 524 4663
- Mon, Wed-Sun 6 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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Savory weekends in New Orleans

French, Cajun food delights tourists in *The Big Easy*

By Jessica Lee
Daily Texan Staff

The perfect escape before final exams roll around is in New Orleans. The Big Easy is an eight-hour road trip away, and though sitting behind the wheel for half a day may seem like torture, it seems like nothing with a good playlist and friends to take over the wheel when your legs start to cramp up.

Friday

Upon arrival, you will probably want to relax at the hotel for a bit, but don't spend too much time in your room. Get cleaned up, throw on a pretty dress and grab the best Cajun meal of your life at Mr. B's Bistro on Royal Street. Though the meal will certainly be a bit pricey and you have to don a bib, it's all worth it once you try the giant barbecue shrimp.

Across the street from Mr. B's is the famous Carousel Bar located in the Hotel Monteleone. The bar itself is a carousel as the name indicates, and if you are lucky enough to grab a seat at the bar, you will find that the bar is slowly moving in a circle. Drinks are expensive but beautifully made.

Saturday

Café Du Monde in the morning is a must. The line will probably seem daunting, but it tends to move rather quickly. The joint only sells one food item — beignets, the French version of a doughnut. With one bite your daily caloric intake will have been met, but the taste of fried dough and powdered sug-

ar is too good to pass up. Wash it all down with a cafe au lait, and you're set to take on the city.

Neighboring Café Du Monde is the French Market. This is the perfect place to pick up inexpensive souvenirs for friends and fami-

ly. Everything from voodoo dolls to feathered Mardi Gras masks can be found here. Be sure to look around for the best bargain. Many of the stands sell the same items at slightly varied costs.

Across from the French Market

is Central Grocery Co. Boasting itself as the "home of the muffaletta," this joint sells enormous sandwiches filled with deli meat and olive salad. Unless you are feeling extremely ravenous, go for the half sandwich. The whole sandwich is dauntingly

large. Grab yours to go and set up camp over by the Mississippi River to watch boats go by and enjoy your meal.

The rest of your afternoon should be spent exploring the French Quarter. Not only are there a ton of

amazing local shops, but the street performers also serve as a great form of entertainment. A band of boys that look as if they should be in a production of "Huckleberry

TRIP continues on PAGE 11



New Orleans milk cart, circa 1903.

Greetings from NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Photo illustration by Fanny Trang | Daily Texan Staff

'The Hunger Games' guide for newbies

By Katie Stroh
Daily Texan Staff

To the delight of its built-in fan base, "The Hunger Games" film, based on the hugely popular sci-fi book series by Suzanne Collins, will hit theaters tomorrow (or tonight, if you're the type to brave midnight premieres of wildly anticipated movies). In case you're one of the few who haven't yet jumped on the "Hunger Games" train, first of all: What's wrong with you? Get thee to a bookstore!

If you're planning on seeing the movie first, however, no judgement. Here's a primer to set the scene of this cutthroat dystopian drama.

THE CHARACTERS

THE UNIVERSE

"The Hunger Games" is set in Panem, Collins' vision of a future America after it's been decimated by an unnamed apocalyptic event, resulting in the establishment of a domineering authoritarian Capitol. The metropolitan Capitol reigns over 12 subordinate districts, each representing a different region of North America.

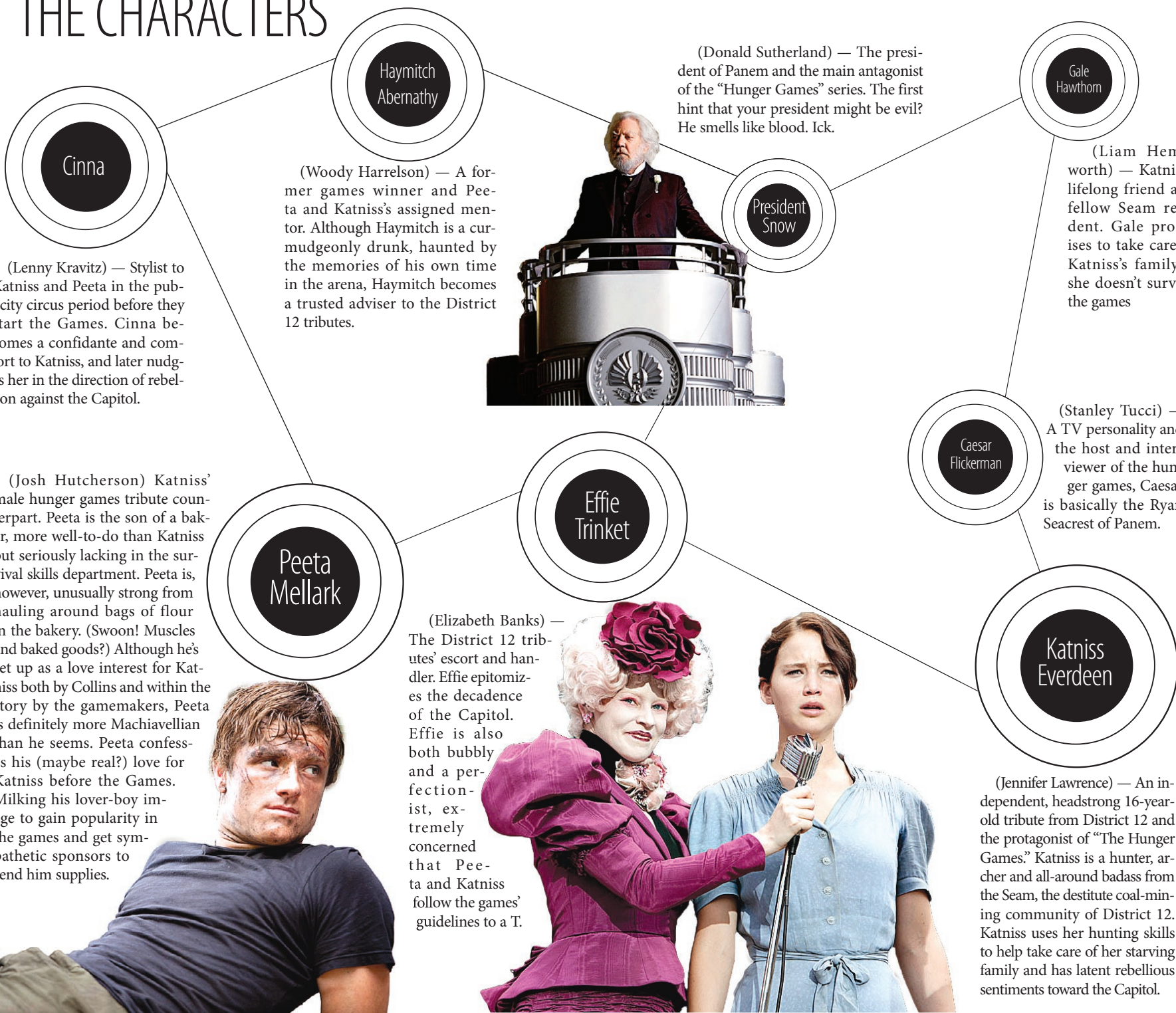
THE GAMES

After a rebellion by a now-destroyed 13th district, the Capitol established the "hunger games" as a way to keep the districts scared and repress further rebellion. Every year, each district must offer up two children, one boy and one girl between the ages of 11 and 18, to compete in an enormous battle to the death in a massive, inhospitable arena-turned-wilderness.

The "tributes," as the competing kids are called, are chosen by a lottery. As most of these children's families are extremely poor, they're encouraged to enter their names in the lottery multiple times for a year's supply of grain and oil, which many do.

Oh, and one more thing to make the games even more gruesome: They're televised live and around the clock, and every citizen is forced to watch. Collins clearly attacks reality TV culture here, as the gamemakers engineer the games to be as juicy, sensational and violent as possible. Furthermore, the tributes are sent through a rigorous glamorization process, paraded forth in costume and interviewed one by one in a drawn-out preshow, much like those on "American Idol," "The Amazing Race" or any number of real-life competition reality shows.

The difference is, by the end of this show, only one contestant makes it out alive.



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INSIDE